

HEROIC INCIDENTALS.

Some Side Lights on the American Fighting Man.

HOW HE ACTS WHEN HIS MAD IS UP

Sometimes, as in the case of Wainwright, he displays audacious courage—valiant noncombatants—A surgeon and a Chaplain who unfatigably faced bullets.

Overshadowed by the larger events of the war, there are some minor happenings which should not be overlooked or forgotten. They are the martial side lights which illuminate unexpected and surprising traits of the American fighting man. They show us that in all sorts of odd conditions our boys in blue are ready to rise to unheard of heights of valor.

These incidental heroes will form the most fascinating features of the yet



LIEUTENANT COMMANDER WAINWRIGHT ON THE BRIDGE OF THE GLOUCESTER.

to be written history, although when the serious mind of man of facts comes to tell of how we thrashed the Spanish in 1898, he will probably relegate them to the footnotes.

As satisfying as any of these incidents is the account of the part taken in the naval engagement off Santiago by the little converted yacht Gloucester. With nothing more formidable than 6 pounder guns Lieutenant Commander Richard Wainwright steamed right into the thick of the muck. When the big Spanish battleships sailed out of the harbor, he began peppering away at them, like a boy with a patty blower tackling an armored knight. The appearance of the two formidable torpedo boat destroyers Pluton and Furor, those long, grim terrors with which the Spanish boasted that they would wipe our entire navy from the seas, was the occasion which Wainwright eagerly seized for distinguishing himself.

Ignoring the fact that a single shell from one of the big guns on the destroyers would have made him a laughing stock, he went for the Pluton and Terror as a wasp does for a lion. His activity was met with a storm of missiles of all kinds, but although the water around his boat was churned into foam by an iron shower he kept hammering away and getting into closer quarters with his antagonists. During the entire action he stood on the bridge and directed the fighting of his boat. With some help from the rest of the fleet he pounded away until both the destroyers were shattered hulks.

It was one of the most remarkable exhibitions of audacious bravery in naval annals. Probably no ship ever fought such an unequal fight and came off victorious. Of course it is too much to claim that Wainwright alone was responsible for the destruction of the destroyers, but it is wonderful enough that his boat should have taken any part in such a battle of giants. It is a fact, moreover, that the well directed fire from his 6 pounders did much to disable both the Pluton and the Terror.

But the navy is not winning all the glory by any means. The army is far from being inert of heroes. The stories of some of those dashes which the vol-

lunteer army of Church at Princeton, yelled over to him from a distance of about 20 feet—he was in with half a dozen fellows doing sharpshooters' work from behind a cluster of bushes—to ask how badly the patient was hurt. The young surgeon looked over his shoulder in the direction whence the private's voice proceeded, and he saw his former chum grinning in the bushes.

"Why, you whelp," said Church, with a comical grin on his face, "how dare you be around here and not be killed!"

"Then he went on fixing the wounded man, and he remained right there with him until the arrival of the litter that he had sent to the rear for."

There is a story of a chaplain, too, which should be preserved. The scene was located on the hill overlooking Camp McCalla. Four of the marines killed in the first day's skirmishing were to be buried. Chaplain Jones of the Texas had come ashore to perform the solemn service.

One of the bodies was that of Dr. Gibbs, and he was buried dressed in the clothes, all booted as he was, he wore at the moment when the Mauser bullet crashed his brain. Some marines grouped themselves about the grave, and at the head of it stood the chaplain of the Texas. He had just begun to read the office for the dead, beginning, "I am the resurrection and the life," when a volley of musketry from the bushes brought every one to attention.

The marines threw themselves upon the grass, with rifles cocked, one eye on the enemy and the other on the open graves, but the chaplain stood erect, continuing his solemn service. The bullets whistled around him, but there was no tremor in his voice, and he moved his position only a step or two to one side. He read the service as calmly and as reverently as though he were in the peaceful cemetery near the church where he once preached not far from Pittsburgh, and when he pronounced the last words he turned calmly and went to his place seemingly not realizing that he had stood both in the presence of death and in the certainty of it.

To hark back to the naval heroes, there is Ensign Powelson, whose work in this war will surely be rewarded sooner or later. Powelson first attracted attention during the Maine inquiry. It



was his expert testimony concerning the bent armor plates that fastened the gull on Spain. When war was declared, he was transferred to the St. Paul, his having requested to be assigned to duty under his old commander, Captain Sigbee.

It was the intention of the navy department to use the St. Paul as a scout ship, but she was provided with a few guns just as a matter of form. Captain Sigbee determined to use these guns and waited for a chance. At last it came. He was snooping around off the harbor of San Juan when the Spanish torpedo boat destroyer Terror and the cruiser Isabel came out to eat him up.

You will remember that the thrashing was reversed. After exchanging a few shots the Isabel backed under the protection of the forts. The Terror was not fortunate enough to get away in time. She was still nearly five miles from the St. Paul when she saw her mistake and concluded to let the Yankee live, but the St. Paul steamed straight for her and began making the water boil all about the Spaniard.

The Terror managed to turn tail without injury, but as she was running for shore a 5 inch shrapnel shell struck her fair in the stern. For a single shot it did a terrific amount of damage. Two of her funnels were knocked down, her deckhouse was smashed, two engineers were killed, and 11 were injured. Besides this the engines were disabled, and in making its adieu she plunked a big hole in the Terror's bottom plates.

This shot was fired at a distance of 8,500 yards away. The man in charge of the gun crew was Ensign Powelson, and the gunner was a hero of the name of Hartman. Hero? Well, if a man who can plant a shot where he wants it at a distance of 8½ miles is not a hero, will you please tell me who is?

And yet the tale is not half told. Many things happen away off at the front which are not heard of for weeks afterward. Some of them may never be told in print at all, but from those brief and unsatisfactory samples you may gather a faint idea of the kind of fighting man an American makes when his mad is really up.

CYRUS SYLVESTER.

A Nice Little Order.

A man who had "got on" in life and rapidly amassed a large fortune, on furnishing a new and luxuriously fitted house, suddenly discovered, to his great distress, that he had omitted the "harmless necessary" library. He went to a local shop and ordered a supply of books.

"What are your particular tastes?" asked the bookseller.

"Oh, I've got a hunch about the matter," was the reply. "You're a bookseller—you ought to know all about it. I simply ask you to provide me with a library."

"And you have no preference?"

"No, but wait a second. I have a preference. There's a man whose books I ought to have. Now, bless me, what's his name? Shake—Shake—Shake something."

"Shakespeare," suggested the bookseller.

"That's him—Mr. Shakespeare. Get all his written, and see that any new books he may write are ordered for me immediately."—Pearson's Weekly.

Ten thousand demons gnawing away at one's vitals couldn't be much worse than the tortures of itching piles. Yet there's a cure. Dean's Ointment never fails.

FASHIONS OF NEW YORK.

They Display the Characteristic Trait of Fickleness.

PLAIDS STILL IN HIGH FAVOR.

The New Fall Goods in Silk and Wool Are Wonderfully Handsome—Rich Stuffs of Satin and Velvet With Designs Wrought in Silver and Gold.

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Fashion holds to her feminine prerogative of changing her mind as often as she likes. Only a little while ago she said, "I am just as tired as anything of plaids, and I won't have any more of the hateful things." Now she has taken a diametrically opposite course and says: "Plaids! I always liked it. It is so stylish." And now plaid is just before our eyes again.

But it must be said that the new designs are really handsome. The prevailing tones are dark and the lines are indistinct, and there are often places where the figure is wrought in raised threads on a soft twilled ground. To these the pattern is generally large, and no effort is made to reproduce clean plaids. There are often small blocks of two colors made in fours, these overlaid with lines large enough to more than cover the four blocks.

I notice, too, many new ideas in dull stripes, some of them quite wide. These stripes all run up and down. Some of them have the looped effect, though rather closer than ever before. The plaids in some designs have portions of the design in the looped weave, and others have spaces looking as if they had been "darned by a darned poor darning," as one clerk expressively said. He meant that the stitches were far apart, but irregular that scholars there showed little knots on the surface. But the stuff is handsome, especially when in two and three distinct shades of gray and white.

The rich corded poplins and other corded fabrics in all wool and silk and wool are most beautiful and will be the delight of those who can get them and the despair



GOWNS FOR EARLY FALL.

of those whose means will not permit them. I hope I shall not belong to the latter class when the time comes. These materials are now in the hands of the dressmakers and are being made up for the wise ones among the Four Hundred.

These goods are for the most part mixtures of silk and wool. The wool is a "dead line" weave, with heavy cords at intervals of from a third of an inch to a half an inch, and these cords are of silk. The presence of the silk through the body of the wool and of the wool through the silk cord gives to each a luster and bloom that are indescribably rich. In black it is the most perfect of all fabrics ever seen. There are other superb stuffs in wool and silk where it is all smooth with no overlying cords, and others where the cords are waved and zigzagged across. The prunella is one of these new fabrics, and already one finds in these small houses elegant tailor gowns made of it. It is very glossy, even more so than the finest farm-satin, being mixed of silk and fine natural Australian wool. This is also crumpled or creased watered silk, and is wearing or some, comes of its manufacture. This makes it impervious to all changes in the weather, and that means that it never puckers or draws at the seams or sags or betrays, no matter to what rough storms it may be exposed. Some of the handsomest of these black tailor-made costumes have combination of plain or ribbed waterproof poplins and silks, for silks—some of them—are made waterproof too.

For instance, there is a skirt of the prunella reaching to about 18 inches of the bottom. The rest is a spring flounce, or in some cases a design in thick stripes. It is a black and white skirt. The skirt is made of the handsomest of these black tailor-made costumes have combination of plain or ribbed waterproof poplins and silks, for silks—some of them—are made waterproof too.

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gumpe of brown and yellow and white plaid silk with a cravat bow made of the same.

There are several very lovely soft woollens for winter wear now ready. Some of them have the shimmering shade of the back of a mole. Others are beaver colored, and all the shades of gray are produced. The nickel and plaid and silver gray are the prettiest. The thick cashmere with the fleecy underside is to be featured, and it deserves it. Amazon cloth, broadcloth, tanspeline and poplin, silk poplin, wool poplin, says in all the possible variations and velvet cashmere are among the new stuffs.

This leaves still to mention the ever growing list of crepons and the rough surfaced goods put out as novelties of this season. The chevrons, covers, cravatettes, endures and mohair fancies are all standard—or is it called staple? Anyway, like the poor, they are always with us, with slight changes from year to year. Very many fine patterns of costly stuffs are produced with patterns upon them requiring certain treatment, like double or triple skirts, panels, etc. Others have all the design disposed in such a way as to require the princess shape, and that, it is confidently affirmed, will be immensely popular this fall and winter for all sorts of gowns. The deep lace application flounces are provided only for the princess shape.

After the princess the most popular skirt, from present indications, will be that where the upper part fits like a glove around the hips nearly to the knee, where the shaped flounce is set. There are no gathers in the back at all, nor folds, the whole effect being wrought by darts. These skirts open at the left side with stitched straps or tabs. It is a pity that all dresses do not fasten in the same way, or at least that in what I think as I travel up and down the earth and notice the awful sights I see as the plackets in the backs of skirts come open when the wearers move, and particularly when they grasp the skirts and draw them to one side. You may see anything, from a pair of correct laces to a bustle or a piece of white calico, or perhaps a red flannel petticoat. Sometimes the lifting of the skirt shows a dainty ruffled skirt affair at the bottom and a piece of cheap calico at the top. A clean white muslin skirt plainly hemmed is far nicer than such a palpable fraud.

I stopped one young girl once to tell her

of those whose means will not permit them. I hope I shall not belong to the latter class when the time comes. These materials are now in the hands of the dressmakers and are being made up for the wise ones among the Four Hundred.

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